

May 19, 2004

DANIEL FOSTER
16508 SE 24TH ST #202
VANCOUVER WA 98683

Subject: Complaint filed against the Julie Young campaign – PDC Case No. 04-296

Dear Mr. Foster:

The Public Disclosure Commission staff has completed its investigation of your complaint received October 28, 2003 alleging that Julie Young failed to make her campaign books and records open for inspection on the eighth day prior to the 2003 general election, an alleged violation of RCW 42.17.080.

PDC staff reviewed your complaint in light of the following statute:

RCW 42.17.080 requires candidates to make campaign books of account, current within one business day, available for public inspection for at least two consecutive hours between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. on the eighth day immediately before the election, and by appointment during the remaining seven days before the election.

You alleged that Julie Young was not present at the time and place designated for campaign books inspection on her Candidate Registration (PDC form C-1), and that no books of account were made available to you at that time and place on the eighth day prior to the November 4, 2003 general election.

We found that:

- Julie Young misunderstood the manner in which the “eighth day” was construed, believing it to be November 3, 2003, the final day of the eight-day period before the election, rather than October 27, 2003, eight days *prior* to the election. Ms. Young stated that she was prepared to have her campaign books open for inspection on November 3, 2003. She stated that upon learning of her mistake, she contacted you on October 28, 2003, the day after your visit, and arranged for you to inspect her campaign books on October 31, 2003.

The Public Disclosure Commission takes seriously the requirement of candidates to make campaign records open for public inspection. However, in this case it appears that Ms. Young's failure to make her campaign records available on October 27, 2003 resulted from an honest misunderstanding, rather than an attempt to circumvent her requirements under the law. Her desire to comply with the law was evidenced by the quick action she took to make her campaign books available for your inspection at the next possible opportunity. Thus, we feel that no further enforcement action is warranted in this instance.

After a careful review of the alleged violation and relevant facts, we have concluded our investigation and, with the concurrence of the Vice Chair of the Public Disclosure Commission, acting on behalf of the Chair, I am dismissing your complaint against the Julie Young campaign.

If you have questions, please contact Phil Stutzman, Director of Compliance, at (360) 664-8853 or toll-free at 1-877-601-2828 or by e-mail at pstutzman@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Vicki Rippie
Executive Director

c: Julie Young